

February 27, 2003

SNAP+

Limited Production Model Planned for late March 2003

Latest Developments

SNAP+ (formerly known as SNAP 2002) development and testing phases have continued throughout 2002 and into 2003. We had anticipated rolling out a limited production version in late 2002 but extensive testing phases of the exporter module combined with additional testing of the BIS Licensing Officer and DOD Referral Officer modules unexpectedly increased development time exponentially. At BIS we want SNAP+ to be the best it can be for both exporters and USG government agencies including BIS and DOD. We hope you appreciate our diligence, and commitment to industry as much as we appreciate your patience and understanding.

Planned Limited Availability

SNAP+ will be available in a limited production environment to a restricted number of exporters beginning in late March 2003. Those exporters will be able to submit exports, re-exports, commodity classifications and Agriculture License Exception Notices (AGRs) with "text-searchable" PDF documents to BIS for review by BIS licensing officers and DOD Referral Officers. Upon successful completion of this limited pilot, we could begin transitioning existing legacy SNAP users to SNAP+ in mid-May. Every company or organization will receive a letter 30 days prior to their transition to SNAP+.

What You Can Do Now

In order for your organization to use SNAP+ all supporting documentation must be in "**text-searchable**" PDF format. BIS will not accept documents that are not in text-searchable PDF format. Further no other document formats will be accepted at this time per DOD who is funding SNAP+ development. Prior to your transition to SNAP+, your company must be able to demonstrate to BIS that all documents are in the prescribed format.

Your IT and/or network staff should begin investigating, as soon as possible, the software and hardware required to convert your supporting documents into "text searchable" PDF format. Additional information on the Adobe family of products can be found at <http://www.adobe.com/acrofamily/familyprod/main.html>. Please be mindful that BIS does not have the staff to answer your questions regarding purchases, installation and configuration of Adobe software.

We encourage all companies to begin converting your supporting documentation into "text-searchable" PDF format as soon as possible.

New SNAP+ Features

- Help Desk Support available from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm EST
- Reuse parties (consignee, purchaser, etc.) from your previous submissions and those of your colleagues
- Reuse export items from your previous submissions and those of your colleagues
- Reuse supporting documents from your previous submissions and those of your colleagues
- Work items are no longer unique to a single user
- The SNAP+ "Work Item Desktop" displays all work items for the organization
- Respond online to information requests from BIS licensing officers
- Supporting documentation available to USG referral agencies
- Additional timesavings when compared to current SNAP
- SNAP+ is provided at "no cost" to the exporting community

We invite you to join the SNAP+ email group by sending your name, company and email address to SNAP@bis.doc.gov. This will give you and your company access to the most current information about SNAP+.

Thanks Everyone,

**SNAP Development Team
The SNAP + Development Team**